SUMMARY TRANSLATION OF "RADIO" NO. 04 [APRIL] FOR 1989

[Rough, summary translations of articles on amateur radio from the monthly magazine RADIO. RADIO is published jointly by the Ministry of Communication and DOSAAF. DOSAAF is the military training organization that sponsors amateur radio in the USSR.]

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[NOTE: Square brackets are used by the translator to set off a comment, a reference, the equivalent of an expression or address in the other language, or the expansion and translation of an abbreviation. Their contents do not appear in the original.]

Page(s)	HIGHLIGHTS
1 — 6	Cosmonaut Day Article on Soviet Amateur Satellite Program.
2	[Footnote] Failure of "Iskra" Satellite in 1978 Revealed.
7 — 8	Return Visit to DARC by Boris Stepanov, UW3AX.
8	More on Amateur Activity Aboard "Mir" Complex.
9 — 14	Armenian Earthquake: Conclusion of Article by UZ3AU.
14 — 16	Armenian Earthquake: UA3CR Criticized, Deprived of Call.
17	Packet Radio: Protocol AX.25 adopted.
18	UK3A [=W1AW] Schedule.
a	Siberian Amateur Conference Scheduled.
c,d,g,h	4J1FS Operation from Malyy Vysotskiy Island.
d — f	Armenian Earthquake: A Permanent Disaster Organization?
g,h	QSL Info on Soviet Stations Operating Portable in Mongolia.
h	"MIR" QSL cards.
i	Jewish Autonomous Oblast' Sponsors Activity Days.
i	Leningrad Meeting Scheduled with Finns and Others.
j	"Private" Callbook Issued, Data Requested for Update.
k	QSL Information Given for US4P Operation in IARU Contest.

pp 2 — 5: [Rubric: "12 April — Cosmonaut Day"]
"RADIO AMATEURS IN SPACE — DON'T DROP OUT OF THE CREATIVITY ORBIT,"
by A[rnol'd Yakovlevich] Grif

The first Soviet radio amateur satellites were launched 26 October 1978. Now, 10 years later, we need new creative efforts by nonprofessional constructors and enthusiasts [interested in] amateur satellite communications.

Back in the 70's a Coordinating Committee for Creating Radio Amateur Satellites [Koordinatsionnyy komitet po sozdaniyu radiolyubitel'skikh sputnikov] was set up; it operated very actively for over five years.

It all started when a grey-haired colonel wearing the badge [znak] of the laureate of a State prize on his tunic appeared at the editorial offices of RADIO magazine.

Smiling, he introduced himself as Vladimir Leonidovich Dobrozhanskiy, ex-member of the Leningrad Shortwave Section and ex-EU65RA, EU3A, and U1AB.

Vladimir Leonidovich was for many years the leader of a large scientific-research collective. But going off into retirement, as the saying goes, "for a well-earned rest," it wasn't in character for him just to sit around doing nothing. So he came to "Radio" with what seemed like a fantastic proposal — to undertake the creation of amateur Earth satellites. This idea was already floating around the editorial offices [??? - Eta ideya uzhe vitala v vozdukhe redaktsii]. For this reason Dobrozhanskiy's proposal to design satellites containing repeaters with multi-station access, launched together with other space objects using excess weight capacity, received warm support. And the organizational principles of this unusual enterprise — the creation, on a volunteer basis, of space equipment and basic systems — were shared completely by the editors.

The project required greater and greater efforts. Vladimir Leonidovich came to the office as though he were coming to work. He located enthusiasts from the Moscow Energetics Institute [Moskovskiy energeticheskiy institut], invited the cooperation of the Student Construction Bureau [studencheskoye KB] of the Moscow Aviation Institute [Moskovskiy aviatsionnyy institut], and maintained constant contact with amateur enthusiasts at Kaluga and Molodechno.

During the creation of the first amateur satellites, an entire network of volunteer — we emphasize volunteer — construction groups began to function. However, the Coordination Committee attached to the editorial offices [koordinatsionnyy komitet pri redaktsii] and the DOSAAF Volunteer Space-Equipment Laboratory [Obshchestvennaya laboratoriya kosmicheskoy tekhniki DOSAAF] became the nucleus around which ideas and designs orbited and which attracted collectives and enthusiasts. The latter was soon set up on the basis of a rayon Sport Technical Club in Moscow. The Laboratory was the alma mater of the first amateur radio satellites.

Among the many employees of the laboratory who volunteered their time and effort to create the satellites, Vladimir Borisovich Rybkin should be mentioned first. He died several years ago, but we remember him as the discoverer [??? - pervoprokhodtsem]. He had golden hands and a golden mind, and — we should add — a golden heart. Through his office went all three of the on-board equipment complexes built by the DOSAAF Volunteer Laboratory — the "Iskra" Construction Bureau of the Moscow Aviation Institute and the Student Construction Bureau of the Moscow Energetics Institute.[1]

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[1][The following is a footnote from the original article] The number three [rather than two, the number given in the Soviet amateur press at the time] is no mistake. On 26 October 1978 three "Radio" amateur satellites were actually launched with a single launch vehicle. However, one of these, entirely (except for the repeater) created by the radio amateurs and students of the Moscow Energetics Institute, did not function. Although it in all probability separated from "Kosmos-1045" — on which it flew — its antennas didn't deploy. Unfortunately in those times it was "unauthorized" ["nepolozhenno"] to write about this.

The second generation of amateur satellites was a squadron of six, placed in orbit by a single launcher 17 December 1981 — the "Radio-3," "Radio-4," "Radio-5," "Radio-6," "Radio-7," and "Radio-8." The earth receiving and command points were also built by creative collectives of DOSAAF USSR. By the way, to be precise and frank, the number of volunteer organizations began to shrink at this time. The Student Contruction Bureaus departed. The Kalugans, organized under the leadership of A[leksandr] P[avlovich] Papkov, [UA3XBU,] as a Volunteer Construction Bureau Attached to the Museum of the History of Cosmonautics Named After K. E. Tsiolkovskiy, took over the main burden — the creation of telemetry systems, radio control links, on-board "logic," "bulletin boards," and robots.

Soon an official unit was born — the NILKT DOSAAF USSR [Nauchno-issledovatel'skaya laboratoriya kosmicheskoy tekhniki DOSAAF SSSR - Scientific-Research Space-Equipment Laboratory of DOSAAF USSR], which was installed in the premises of the volunteer laboratory and absorbed the latter. In other words the official role was advancing and the volunteer work was retreating.

Another launch took place in the Soviet Union on 23 June 1987, that of "Kosmos-1861," which contained equipment for providing amateur satellite communication. This time the on-board radiotechnical complex was designed by A. P. Papkov's group.

As we can see, the length of time between the second and third launches of amateur radio satellites was five-and-a-half years. There were a number of reasons for this, including the reorientation of the administrations of the Central Committee of DOSAAF USSR and of NILKT DOSAAF USSR to having satellites built by industry. There were people in the CC who didn't believe in the strength of volunteer collectives and convinced management to take this path.

NILKT DOSAAF USSR became just a middle-man between industry and the one remaining group of Kalugans headed by A. Papkov. In all fairness, this was a capable and hardworking group, but a monopoly position doesn't facilitate rapid progress with amateur equipment. As is known, RS-10 and RS-11 are identical in equipment, bands, and operation. It's evident that one or more of the next satellites will be based on the same complex of equipment, called by its creators BRTK-10 [bortovoy radiotekhnicheskiy kompleks-10 - on-board radioequipment complex 10]. [See summary translation RADIO #10/1987, pp 7 - 16, for details on BRTK-10.]

This is what reducing the volunteer basis to the limit lead to.

Self-critically, the "Radio" editors and the Federation of Radio Sport of the USSR gave up without a fight. The Coordination Committee attached to the editorial offices ceased to exist.

I'm convinced that such "history lessons" are useful in evaluating our loss of valuable experience gained through volunteerism in research, construction, experimental, and organizational work. Perhaps the agencies and ministries, appreciating the disinterested work of the enthusiasts, met them half way, helped and supported them, "breaking through" difficult obstacles.

Unfortunately, over the last few years we not only haven't gained, we've lost a lot. Why for example did the Student Construction Bureaus of the Moscow Aviation Institute and the Moscow Energetics Institute withdraw from the project? Why did the very strong group from Molodechno practically break away [from amateur satellite activity]?

We need, without delay, to restore the old groups of activists, and to locate new collectives.

To begin with, the technical level of our RS's can hardly be considered satisfactory. There's only one satellite in orbit. The first two launches placed whole groups of amateur satellites in orbit, which came into line-of-sight range one after the other and increased the total communication time per rotation. In this connection we were ahead of the amateurs in other countries.

But over the years our foreign colleagues haven't been standing still. Japanese and West German satellites have appeared, and now we are the ones who have to catch up.

Plans are now being drawn up in the NILKT DOSAAF USSR for new generations of amateur satellites. Their orbits will be higher and their operating possibilities broader. Consideration is being given to using computers, packet-radio systems, talking robots, and so forth and so on. One would hope that these and other plans are being drawn up competently and professionally, taking into account experience from all over the world.

All of this, however, is being done within the confines of an official collective. Yet it's time to attract collective and individual enthusiasts to the work of drawing up plans, considering them, and then realizing the projects, on-board complexes, equipment elements, individual systems, and even units. It would probably be useful to return to the formula of creating satellites through the combined efforts of radio amateurs and of engineer and student volunteers.

At the present time, a mass movement is being broadened under the aegis of the Komsomol [the party youth organization] for the creation of NTTM [nauchno-tekhnicheskoye tvorchestvo molodezhi — scientific-technical creativity by young people] centers, groups, and firms. I think the symbiosis of radio amateur research [? — poisk] and scientific-technical creativity by youth could give a strong impulse and open up a new stage in attracting young talent to perform space experiments.

It's a pity that we often just try to repeat what's been done "there" [in the West]. Bold ideas, passionate hearts, and intelligent heads are needed. The tragic events in Armenia showed how necessary basic?/low-level?/local? communications [nizovaya svyaz'] are, especially in emergency situations. And it's within the capability of radio amateurs to conduct experiments on developing such a system with low-flying satellites. Such work could be done on the basis of a contest, with a great amount of glasnost' [openness] and a democratic tallying of results in comparing the [competing] projects.

Another question needs to be brought up for public discussion: Why must amateur satellites necessarily be communication satellites? Couldn't experiments be devised and conducted on such a globally important problem as the ecology? Many young researchers could be found who would cooperate with radio amateurs to get access to a satellite and to test instruments for, say, evaluating ecological situations by signaling about atmospheric polution and forest fires.

When the first amateur satellites were created, a lively exchange of views took place about using them for educational purposes. In this respect, a certain amount of experience has accumulated in the USA, Hungary, and other countries, where the Doppler effect is studied based on radio signals received from satellites. But we haven't yet begun to write such a chapter, and that's too bad. It would help increase by many times the number of users of our satellites and would help — not in words but in deeds — to solve the problem of mass participation.

NILKT DOSAAF USSR statistics show that 1327 Soviet stations have operated via RS-10 and RS-11. Few operators use our satellites on a regular basis. Even in sport competitons the number of participants varies between 60 to 150.

True, the percentage growth in Earth satellite networks is greater than in [terrestrial] shortwave and ultrashortwave networks. But I think these are cunning/sly/crafty figures [??? - "lukaviye tsifry"]. They allay doubts [uspokaivayut] but hide the reasons.

Broad and open examination is needed of why, in spite of the continuing interest in space, the radio amateur masses are not interested in satellite communications. Is there no possibility for experimentation as when operating via meteors or "Aurora"? Is it simpler to conduct DX QSO's than in the mediumwave band? After all, you wouldn't call amateur communication enthusiasts conservatives.

Of course, increased mass participation in amateur satellite communication may be slowed by the lack of necessary equipment. But this indicator isn't any better or worse than for other forms of amateur communication. And one other idea to show that the problem isn't "material-technical" in nature: No one manufactured SSB equipment when SSB was being introduced. The same was true for the ultrashortwave bands, yet today they are among the most popular.

So what's the explanation? Why isn't a form of amateur communication that has shown such promise for over ten years in greater demand? Only radio amateurs can provide the answer, which will be based not so much on technical as on psychological factors.

In discussing satellite communication, one can't ignore its international aspects. After all, for many years we pretended not to know about the launching of OSCAR's. Cleverly-worded, often oral-only instructions didn't prohibit, but also at the time didn't permit, Soviet radio amateurs to operate via foreign amateur satellites. After all, the satellites are in orbit around our common planet Earth, and it's time to do the same as our foreign colleagues, who regularly operate via "Radio" satellites: We should widely and creatively make use of space repeaters created abroad.

Joint amateur radio space projects offer great possibilities. But to take advantage of them we are obliged to learn not only to talk, but to think and act, in new ways. The idea of the socialist countries creating a satellite is moving forward with surprising slowness. Here the administration of the Central Committee of DOSAAF USSR and the NILKT DOSAAF USSR apparently can't get rid of methods of work that reigned during the period of stagnation. As before, endless clearances, correspondence, consultations, "high-level" meetings, etc., take place without justification. And constructors' working groups never sit down around a single table. Hasn't the time come for "direct communications" between them?

It's time to think of more "global" cooperation. Within the framework of the international amateur communication satellite organization AMSAT, thirteen OSCAR satellites have been launched. Some of them were launched through the joint efforts of radio amateurs in several countries. Up to now we've remained deaf to suggestions, even unofficial soundings, about creating, for example, a joint satellite in a highly elliptical orbit of the type opened up by the Soviet "Molniya" ["Lightning"] satellites.

In front of me is an issue of "AMSAT-DL" magazine containing a report on the Third AMSAT-UK Colloquium, at which 160 radio amateurs from 22 countries gathered in the summer of 1988 at Surrey University in Goldford [Guildford]. Constructors of former, present, and future amateur satellites were there. A lively exchange of experience took place. They jointly examined the tendencies governing future developments in the building of satellites. There were speeches about new projects, in particular about the "Phase IV AMSAT-NA" for [intended to be placed in] geostationary orbit. Unfortunately, neither the Federation of Radio Sport of the USSR nor NILKT DOSAAF USSR participates in these meetings, which have become traditional.

Without much risk of error this situation has a straightforward explanation. The "old dogmas," stereotyped "steel-and-concrete" views, and formalism still weigh us down. It's high time to file them away.

AMSAT, sensing the new "international climate," is showing every sign of striving to widen contacts with Soviet radio amateurs and is showing an interest in "building bridges." It's no accident that the author of the notes on Colloquium-88, mentioned above, wrote, not without irony, that the presence in the hall of UA3CR (in fact as a private individual) was comparable to the appearance of a movie star and was seen by all as a sign of glasnost'...

The broadening and strengthening of international contacts in all directions, proclaimed by our country on the basis of perestroyka and new political thinking, not only opens up possibilities for us but obliges us to become the initiators of promising projects for creating amateur satellites in the interests of developing peaceful international amateur radio space programs. But for this we need — as much as we need air to breath — to concentrate all volunteer amateur radio forces in the orbit of technical creativity.

pp 8 - 11: "RETURN VISIT," by B[oris Grigor'yevich] Stepanov, UW3AX, Hannover - Baunatal - Moscow.

For the first time in its quarter-century history, an exchange of official visits has taken place between delegations of the Federation of Radio Sport of the USSR /FRS USSR/ and the national radioamateur organization of a capitalist country -- DARC, the German Amateur Radio Club -- in the Federal Republic of Germany.

The occasion for establishing direct contacts was DARC's wish to host the Second IARU Region I Speed-Telegraphy Championship. The FRS USSR was the organizer of the First Championship and naturally our colleagues from the FRG wanted to get acquainted not only with the activities of our federation but also with its experience in conducting such competitions. A DARC delegation spent several days in Moscow in March of last year. It included Karl Diebold, DJ1BM, leader [rukovoditel'] of DARC headquarters, and Hans Berg, DJ6TJ, who is responsible for international relations for DARC and is known best as the Chief of the IARU Region I Working Group on Short Wave.

The return visit took place in November of last year. The FRS USSR delegation included A. Malkin [Chief, Radiosport Department, Central Committee, DOSAAF USSR], Yu. Starostin - UV3AED, and the author of these lines. It coincided with the "Interradio-88" International Radio Amateur Fair [yarmarka], which gave us the opportunity to get acquainted with DARC's "mass/organizational" (to use our terminology) activities ["orgmassovaya" deyatel'nost'].

The fair is held annually on the first full weekend of November in one of the pavilions of the Hannover exhibition center.

[There follows a lengthy description of exhibiting firms.]

DARC uses "Interradio" to publicize short wave and "foxhunting" (the two forms of amateur radio cultivated by DARC): For its work with youth, DARC last year received from the government the status of a socially-useful organization, which means among other things that it pays lower real-estate taxes.

Various meetings, lectures, and seminars are held within the framework of "Interradio." I was able to attend a lecture dedicated to shortwave amateur radio in the Soviet Arctic -- from the Chelyuskin episode[2] to the present day. This is a clear indication of the growing interest in our country and in the Soviet radio amateur movement.

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[2]The Soviet ship "Chelyuskin" was crushed by ice 13 February 1934 while attempting to sail the entire Northern Route (traversing the Arctic Ocean north of the USSR) in a single season. The crew abandoned ship and camped out on a surrounding ice floe; the last of the crew were rescued 13 April 1934. Ernst Teodorovich Krenkel' was the chief radioman of the "Chelyuskin" and continued in charge of radiocommunication from the ice floe. For his role in the "Chelyuskin" incident, Krenkel' was given the right to use the ship's "professional" callsign, RAEM, as his personal amateur callsign.

During "Interradio-88," shortwavers from twelve European countries attended international amateur meetings. One of the principal matters discussed was the Second IARU [Region I?] Speed-Telegraphy Championship. A decision was made to hold it in November of this year in Hannover on the same days that the "Interradio" Fair takes place [4 — 5 November 1989 according to the "first full weekend in November" formula].

[Description of visit of DARC headquarters at Baunatal (DLODL).]

The visit indicated that there are things we can learn from our West German colleagues. The exchange of visits was certainly useful to both national amateur radio organizations and facilitated the development of friendly relations between them.

pp 11 — 12: "'OCEANS' ON THE AMATEUR AIRWAVES" ["'OKEANY' V LYUBITEL'SKOM EFIRE"].

Compared to the length-of-time-spent-in-space records set by Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov, their on-the-air operation on the amateur bands might seem insignificant. But of course it wasn't.

First, the possibility of carrying on amateur radio communication is important for the psychological support of the cosmonauts, particularly for those who spend long periods in space. This informal channel for keeping in contact with Earth gives them great pleasure. The first QSO was made by the "Oceans" ["Oceans" is believed to be some sort of an identifying nickname chosen by or for these cosmonauts] was made during a "recess" between the first and second lessons on the procedure for conducting an amateur contact, made necessary by the fact that the spacecraft went out of direct-line-of-sight range. While we on Earth were waiting about an hour for the next pass, our capable pupils didn't waste their time.

Second, the impression made on the millions-strong amateur community around the world was no less important. Shortwavers from the most remote corners of our planet contacted Vladimir Titov — M1MIR, Musa Manarov — U2MIR, or Valeriy Polyakov — U3MIR. Stories about these contacts with the Soviet cosmonauts appeared in many newspapers in the USA, Australia, Argentina, and other countries.

[Excerpts follow from letters from Patrick Gowen — G3IOR, Randy Scott — N6SHN, Tami Johnson — N7DKE (N7KDE per callbook) — 14 years of age, Paul Fer'ye — ZS5ACW, Johnny Hudson — N4PKL (N4RKL per callbook), George Campbell — VE7FPE (VE7FRE per callbook), and Peter de Groot — a Dutch SWL. Photographs — one of Mark Hasman — VK4CMH and his daughter Wendy, the other of Andrej Oravec — OK3AU, the first Czechoslovak amateur to contact the "Mir" — accompany the excerpts.]

pp 14 - 17: "LENINAKAN -- DAYS OF HARDSHIP" [conclusion; see RADIO #03/1989 for first portion of article], by G[ennadiy Grigor'yevich] Shul'gin, UZ3AU/UG [ex-UA3ACM], Leninakan - Moscow.

[Conclusion. Continued from RADIO #03/1989.]

In the morning we worked UG7GWO and took several messages for the "Magnitoprovod" plant. We QSY'd to 20 meters, where the first information came through on rescue detachments and special trains carrying equipment. Volunteers from many cities offered to help.

The best doctors from Georgia were at work in Armenia days after the catastrophe. People brought bread and other food in their own cars and generously distributed it to people made homeless by the earthquake. Sasha [Aleksandr] Karamyan, UF6CR, and Misha [Mikhail] Ignatov, UF6FAL, came to Spitak and provided communications. Zhan Marutyan, UF6FZ, was in Leninakan with a group of mountain [mine?] rescue-workers digging through the ruins.

Some messages were for rescue-worker detachments in Leninakan. We couldn't find out where they were quartered.

As in Chernobyl'[3], the local civil defense workers weren't prepared for rescue work. The shock lasted almost a week. Many believe it was a mistake to entrust control of rescue work to local officials, all of whom had lost loved ones and consequently were unable to make timely decisions. Although the highest-management level for liquidating the consequencies of the earthquake, led by Deputy Chief of the USSR Council of Ministers B. Ye. Shcherbin, operated flawlessly, many officials at the middle level were clearly not up to the job. This unavoidably affected rescue work, especially in the first [few] days.

But how could we deliver the messages addressed to the rescue-workers? We tried to make a map showing where their organizations were quartered in Leninakan. We went to the local civil defense office to get a map of the city. The major on duty answered in surprise "What's wrong with you, that's prohibited!" Finally, we got a detailed map showing streets and buildings, as a gift from ... American rescue-workers! We made up a list of who was where and of equipment. We put an ultrashortwave transceiver in Gagik's[4] car and he delivered messages to their addressees.

Our radio net gradually spread out. We established communication links on 146 MHz with the Austrian, French, and American camps. As soon as requests came in for specialists with search equipment, we immediately contacted one of the foreign groups and requested assistance. There were still no interpreters, so our guys, when they were off watch, accompanied the group.

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[3]See summary translation RADIO #04/1988, pages 4 - 5, regarding the author's (UZ3AU's) participation in the cleanup following the Chernobyl' nuclear explosion 26 April 1986.

[4]Gagik Saakyan, the music teacher most of whose pupils were killed in the earthquake. Saakyan volunteered his services to the author's group. See summary translation RADIO #03/1989, page 3. (He may have proven particularly useful as an Armenian/Russian interpreter.)

Ultrashortwave stations were in pitifully short supply. If all rescue groups had been equipped with them, the work in the ruins would have been far more efficient.

Under local conditions, domestically made "Kaktus" ["Cactus"], "Lastochka" ["Swallow"], and "Transport" radio sets proved inefficient. The bulky "Len" ["Flax"?] sets were voracious [power consumers?], and even the "Len" sets took 10 days to show up; before they did, all traffic passed through our net.

We breathed a bit easier when rescue-workers arrived from the Crimea with "Karat" radio sets operating on 1740 kHz. They linked up the "first aid" organization, the sanitary-epidemic office, the airport, hospitals, and rescue sites where people were being pulled from under destroyed buildings.

The load on the radio sets was so great that batteries only lasted 24 hours. We sent a message to Yerevan asking for 4000 "Saturn" batteries and the very next day the problem of feeding the station was resolved. Things went worse with our own feeding. After witnessing blood and formless human remains, it was impossible to sleep or eat. The air was saturated with the smell of corpses and we had to smoke to drown out the oder. There was no water, so we drank, and washed in, mineral water. We tried to make coffee with mineral water, but the taste was such that it wasn't worth the trouble. Fortunately, Aram Manvelyan, UG6GRA, occasionally brought boiled fresh water from somewhere.

Gradually they began to understand at the staff office that radiomen had the most recent information on where individuals and equipment were located. Now people were raising matters with us often having nothing to do with communications. Lean, neatly-groomed guys in rescue outfits constantly came in. They were indignant over the disorder in the staff office. "So many people are milling about doing nothing. They scamper around the corridors in neckties with important-looking expressions on their faces, and can't resolve a single practical matter. And so many 'on-lookers' at the excavations! Five people dig and twenty stand and watch..."

Alas, we had run into this ourselves. In time we realized that we would have to rely on our own resources, and after that we would send newly-arrived groups of "unorganized" rescue-workers to volunteer groups known to us which were already working in the ruins.

The group led by Valeriy Krivenko, a military doctor from Kalinin, worked especially dashingly [likho] — there's no other word for it. The group flew to Armenia immediately upon learning of the earthquake. Krivenko's team consists entirely of mountain climbers and cave explorers [al'pinisty i speleologi], all working at the highest professional level. The discipline in their camp was military — a fixed daily schedule, stenuous calisthenics. They set themselves the goal of doing the maximum possible, and they did it! They saved 130 people from under the rubble of buildings! The city needed bread, and Valeriy's team unearthed bread-baking equipment from the wreckage of a bread plant.

On the eve of his departure, Valeriy ran in to our place for a light. "That's it. We're flying out. The guys are tired, they cry out in their sleep 'Give me your hand, give me your hand!!'" He suggested we exchange addresses. If, God forbid, this happens again, send me a telegram immediately and we'll work together again.

On the way to see Valeriy off we saw a blue "RAF" minibus with the sign "Cooperative of Kirgiziya" and the driver asleep at the wheel. It was the coop chairman, who had brought gas cutting equipment from Frunze to help the rescue workers. A week earlier we had sent his group to help Krivenko's detachment, and they went all out on the rescue work. Unfortunately, in the heat of events I forgot their names. "RADIO" readers should know that these wonderful, modest, genuine people, for whom there's no such thing as someone else's misfortune, live in the Kirgizian capital [Frunze].

We were on the air around the clock. The Ministry of Communication was slowly restoring communications. Almost daily there were tremors, not big ones but enough to disturb this work. Once in the middle of the night an tall, energetic man came to our place and announced "I'm the Minister of Communication of Armenia, Robert Avoyan. There's an urgent need for communication with Yerevan!" As always, UG7GWO immediately answered when called. The good audibility surprised even the Minister of Commununication. "Advise immediately at what distance from Leninakan the highway cable is damaged. Next, send a telegram to Moscow asking that Deputy Minister of Communication of the USSR Gennadiy Georgiyevich Kudryavtsev be sent to Armenia!" "Why send a telegram via Yerevan?" we asked Robert Sambatovich. "We have a solid communication link with Moscow. The Minister shook his head doubtfully at the small transceiver which still didn't instill confidence. Kostya Khachaturov, UW3AA, demonstrated contact with Moscow for him, and the Minister offered to help the amateurs if they needed anything.

Kostya and I [as a result of the Minister's offer!] got permission from the State Telecommunication Inspectorate of the Ministry of Communication of the Armenian SSR to use our personal calls followed by /UG [Armenia], but the station was so located that we couldn't go on the air at that time. Traffic was being passed on transportation of medical supplies, food, and clothing sent from all parts of the country to help Armenia.

The amateur frequency of 14175 kHz was reminiscent of a service channel of a large radio network. Just a week earlier I wouldn't have given out my telephone number or address over the air, but now radio amateurs were doing so by the thousands. Thanks are due to the State Telecommunication Inspectorate of the USSR Ministry of Communication for timely decisions on the giving out of such information [over the air] during the period of the rescue work.

Shortcomings came to light in the [operation of the] amateur network. Unfortunately, 'phone operation significantly delays the exchange of messages; due to interference texts have to be repeated several times. Telegraph is much more dependable even today. So it's necessary to know "Morse"; it can stand you in good stead!

Due to bad gasoline the generators operated in an unstable manner. With no load 250 V, with a transmitter and amplifier turned on 150 V. On account of such "spurts" the transceiver power supplies went out of commission five times. Either the electrolytes would explode [vzorvut'sya])) or the amplifier [? — "silovik"] would smoke. And all this while underground tremors were continuing. At first, looking at the shifting level of water in a bottle (a sort of seismograph!), we ran out into the street, but later we got used to this and paid no attention.

A week in this hell has its effect, and the nervous system defends the body against overloading. We began to laugh loudly [khokhotat'] at every little thing. To an outsider it seems crazy [diko] — people laughing among ruins, tears, and grief. We somehow organized daily life. Even with the work in the ruins the guys tried to look decent. When not on watch they slept on the floor in sleeping bags. It was cold at night but we didn't freeze: The equipment, which was in operation around the clock, warmed the room.

Our canned [tinned] goods were running out, but departing rescue-workers left us their remaining supplies. Live people were being dug out more and more infrequently, so the volunteer rescue-workers began to disperse.

"During the first [few] days, the physicians didn't leave the operating table at all," said Anatoliy Baryshev, UA3DCD, a physician-traumatist [vrach-travmatolog] from Kaliningrad near Moscow. "The physicians' team under the direction of Doctor Kookk from Tartu [Estonia] displayed particularly great skill working at the railroad hospital in Leninakan!" After talking with Anatoliy, it was a pleasure to transmit this praise to residents of Tartu via UR2DL.

* * *

When they learned of the tragedy that had befallen Armenia, thousands of people abroad tried to help its suffering people in one way or another. Some sent money, others medical supplies or equipment. We witnessed all of this. The work of processing incoming supplies went on day and night at the airport and in the destroyed towns and settlements. We too had to work as loading-workers, helping the "MSF" French team of medics unload a 20-ton trailer containing medical supplies.

National radioamateur unions of America, Switzerland, West Germany, and Australia offered assistance. Our foreign colleagues advised that they were prepared to send necessary communication equipment. This was very much the type of help that was needed. In the first [few] days of the tragedy, and even a month later, as I already said, personal radio sets were desperately [pozarez] needed to organize rescue work and dispatcher communication. Sets designed by our constructors might be OK for the "Zarnitsa" ["Summer Lightning"] pioneer game but not for operation in a destroyed town, where even charging the battery was a problem. For this reason, we oriented the volunteer sponsors toward [steered them toward donating] portable stations operating in the two-meter band.

Unfortunately, the power of our transceivers was so low that direct communication was impossible. We had to resort to intermediaries, which also led to deplorable results. Someone notified our friends abroad that packet radio (which by the way is not yet permitted in the USSR) was needed in Armenia. So expensive computers and packet terminals were bought and sent from the USA to Moscow! However, even one and a half months later the equipment hadn't arrived in the areas of Armenia affected by the earthquake. Numerous inquiries from radio amateurs operating from towns and settlements affected by the earthquake went unanswered.

True, a report appeared in the press to the affect that a radio station had supposedly [yakoby] been installed transmitting information on people being searched for [welfare-whereabouts information] with the help of packet radio.[5] We -- twenty-seven shortwavers who operated from the first days from the earthquake areas -- state that this is not true! All of the whereabouts information concerning Leninakan, Spitak, and Kirovakan went via our stations. Without the use of packet radio, thousands of addresses were processed and thousands of people found their relatives and loved ones. And how much more could have been done if there hadn't been so many indifferent people around when rumors were being spread over the air. Yet no one offered real help in the form of equipment.

The misfortune of Armenia shed light on lots of things and showed who was who. For entire days at a time, UZ9AYA, UZ9CWW, UB4LWC, U8AE, UA3DEV, and too many others to list here didn't turn their stations off and were ready to help establish communication. Other giggled [podkhikhikivali] by telegraph [sic] on the emergency frequency and interferred with communications and even resorted to swearing. And all of this in a villainous, cowardly way [podlenko, truslivo], not giving their call-signs. Some -- like Gerhard Escherich - DL8KAW, and John Ladd - N7HZG -- brought their equipment to Armenia and left it there, while others, having come to Armenia on a DXpedition, ran off on 9 December [the earthquake occured two days earlier, on 7 December 1988], though they were heard loudly and could have helped in the operation of the radio net...

The two weeks in Leninakan dragged on and paradoxically flew by quickly. We ate hot food only once, as the guests of those who had worked at Chernobyl' [as had Shul'gin, the writer of this article]. They dug out a shoe factory, as usual doing most of the work themselves. Their chief was Viktor Golubev.

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[5]This may refer to a 19 January 1989 article in Sovetskaya Rossiya, based on a TASS dispatch from the Armenian capital Yerevan, reporting the installation at the Armenian Communist Youth League [Komsomol] the previous day of a "Search" ["Poisk"] Information Computing Center for locating persons affected by the Armenian earthquake. See Annex to summary translation RADIO #01/1989, page f.

. . .

So our trip to Armenia is behind us and it's time to take stock. The first bitter conclusion is that we apparently learned little from the Chernobyl' tragedy. Volunteer detachments were formed spontaneously [stikhiyno] and there was no one to tell them where they were needed the most. No light, mobile communications equipment was available. Most important, precise direction of the rescue work was often lacking. Government commissions decided broad questions, but much depended upon the middle echelons of the command structure. And another thing. The catastrophe in Chernobyl' again demonstrated the need for groups well equipped for rescuing people and able to react rapidly. Such groups must include communicators, consisting first of all of shortwave sportsmen.

pp 17 - 19: "UP THE DOWN STAIRCASE" ["VVERKH PO LESTNITSE VEDUSHCHEY VNIZ"], by the Department of Propaganda [Publicity], Science, and Radiosport [of the Central Committee of DOSAAF USSR].

[Translator's note: Readers of this summary translation should bear in mind that there is very definitely another side to the version of events presented by UA3CR's unnamed accuser(s). A telling test of glasnost' will be provided by whether UA3CR is afforded a comparable opportunity to present his side of the story in the Soviet amateur press.]

An endless stream of help came to Armenia from all over the country and the world [following the earthquake of 7 December 1988]. Among the first who came to the assistance of the suffering were radio amateurs. Even now that communication with the affected areas has been restored, the need for amateur nets continues.

Unfortunately, especially at the beginning, there weren't enough ultrashortwave radio sets for rescue-worker detachments; literally each set increased the chances of reducing the numbers of victims. IARN on 16 December and ARRL on 22 December sent necessary equipment for Armenia. But days passed without any of it being put in service.

People, including foreigners, began to ask over the air what had happened to it? Why was it being held up in Moscow and by whom?

More and more often well-known shortwaver Leonid Mikhaylovich Labutin, UA3CR, was mentioned as the principal "hero" of this unsightly story [glavnyy "geroy" etoy nepriglyadnoy istorii].

Well, an investigation similar to one in a detective story had to be conducted to get at the truth. For this purpose the Bureau of the Presidium of the Federation of Radio Sport of the USSR [FRS USSR] met three times. What was determined? On 18 and 22 December 1988 the equipment arrived in Moscow for immediate use in the areas affected by the earthquake. Ultrashortwave ["ultrashortwave" covers VHF, UHF, and SHF; here presumably VHF at 144 MHz] transceivers, portable ultrashortwave radio sets, and packet-radio units, including a microcomputer [microcomputers?], were carefully packed in boxes weighing 60 kg and were sent by the ARRL. This equipment was urgently awaited in Spitak, Kirovakan, and Leninakan. But suddenly all of it disappeared secretly somewhere.

Where? President L. Price of the ARRL informed Chairman Yu. Zubarev of the FRS USSR that L. Labutin received the equipment. This caused an immediate meeting of the Bureau of the Presidium of the FRS USSR to be called on 3 January [1989] to determine what had happened. Labutin was invited [to attend] but denied everything.

The Main Customs Administration at Sheremet'yevo-2 [the Moscow international airport] confirmed that the shipment did indeed arrive with A. Makotinskiy, a representative of the [international] committee of "Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War" ...

A. Makotinskiy confirmed that on 22 December he flew from the USA with six boxes of equipment. At the airport he was met by ... Leonid Mikhaylovich Labutin, to whom the six boxes were transferred.

On 12 January the Bureau [of the Presidium of the FRS USSR] met again. This time Labutin was forced to admit that yes, he had received six boxes containing equipment from the USA. But what had happened to it? Labutin finally stated that the equipment was intended for the committee of "Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War" and was located at the Space Research Institute.

Doubting L. M. Labutin's sincerity, Yuriy Borisovich Zubarev telephoned G. M. Tomkovich, Deputy Director of the Institute, on the spot. Tomkovich advised that as soon as he learned that the equipment was intended for the Armenian radio amateurs, he refused to take delivery of it. He knew nothing of its later fate.

"So where are the units, Leonid Mikhaylovich?"

"In the laboratory of this institute... With my son, and at the operational staff for rendering assistance to areas suffering from the earthquake."

So three new Labutin versions had appeared: One, "the equipment had been retained for full fitting out [??? - dlya ukomplektovaniya]; two, "for setting up a staff radio net"; three, "to set up a search information system for the Komsomol [the party youth organization] Central Committee." By referring to the Komsomol staff, whose sole "technical adviser" he indisputably turned out to be, Labutin tried to cover up his unseemly acts [neblagovidnyye postupki].

In fact, at Labutin's prompting, the radio sets ended up in the storeroom of the Komsomol Central Committee rather than in Armenia. The FRS suggested that Labutin immediately assemble all the equipment received on 18 and 22 December from the USA and have it sent to the intended destination. Only then, on 15 January, did the units go to Yerevan. Unfortunately, even then they didn't get to radio amateurs but rather ended up [? - osev] in the Central Committee of the Republic Komsomol. Thus matters remained until 9 February when the matter of the equipment and of L. Labutin's behavior was taken up for the third time by the Bureau of the Presidium of the FRS USSR.

There are no other words for it, L. Labutin's role in this whole story was extremely unsightly [krayne nepriglyadna]. Why? What were his motives?

In the opinion of some, L. Labutin is the grandfather of packet radio in our country. He seems to consider any means justified to achieve his ends. When American radio amateurs asked him over the

air how they could help their Armenian colleagues, Labutin couldn't resist requesting ... packet equipment. Why it was that Leonid Mikhaylovich decided on his own what was needed and what was not needed is a separate matter for discussion. We propose to have a thorough discussion of the role of amateur communication and of the organization and coordination of amateurs' activities in emergency situations in a future issue of our magazine.

L. Labutin maintains that he wanted to set up packet radio communication between Moscow and Yerevan. The fact that this link was taken care of without difficulty on government communication links didn't stop Leonid Mikhaylovich from taking advantage of the opportunity to attract general attention to packet radio, or rather to himself. By the way, the equipment that was sent included, aside from packet radio devices, portable ultrashortwave radio sets, which also did not reach their destination in good time. For some reason L. Labutin didn't offer them for use in the rescue work in Armenia. And this at a time when there was a serious shortage of radio equipment in the areas that suffered from the earthquake and the saving of human lives was at stake. So that any delay in sending equipment to Armenia was life-threatening [? - bylo smeri podobno].

Even now, when the worst is over, help is extremely necessary in restoring amateur radio in areas affected by the earthquake.

In general, all the actions of L. Labutin, supposedly aimed at organizing packet radio in Armenia, when packet radio wasn't all that necessary, again confirm that to achieve his goals he even resorts to outright lying.

But then this principle is not new. In many spheres of our life we are now reaping the fruits of the immorality, sown long ago, the neglect of common human values, and the justification of base methods [opravdaniye nizkikh metodov] for the sake of achieving "great goals." We are trying to uproot these seeds, but as we see from the Labutin example, we are not always successful.

At the meeting of the Board of the Presidium of the FRS USSR, L. Labutin had to hear a number of bitter and harsh words, some of them from comrades he had worked with to provide communication for the well-known expeditions of [Dr.] Dmitriy [I.] Shparo [UA3AJH]. But, after all, maybe this instance was an exception in the lifelong activities of the well-known shortwaver.

Unfortunately, this is not the case. On his way to the top Leonid Mikhaylovich resorted to some very dubious means.

About ten years ago a group of Kiev radio amateurs asked Labutin to take a mock-up of an on-board space repeater to an All-Union Exhibition of the Creations of DOSAAF Radioamateur Constructors. A mock-up was shown, but one that Labutin actively helped to prepare, not the one prepared by his "competitors."

We think his lack of scruples led to his undoing. The Board of the Presidium of the Federation of Radio Sport of the USSR decided unanimously that for actions objectively impeding the timely transfer to the radio amateurs of Armenia of radio equipment sent from the USA and urgently needed to conduct work on liquidating the consequences of the earthquake, to deprive L. M. Labutin of his callsign. This outcome is sad beyond words for every genuine radio amateur.

pp 21 — 23: "CQ-U."

INFO*INFO*INFO, edited by A[leksandr Ivanovich] Gusev, UA3AVG

DIPLOMAS [CERTIFICATES].

To receive the "Lubny-1000" diploma marking the 100th anniversary of the town of Lubny, Poltavskaya Oblast' [071, B-H], apply to 315500, g. Lubny Poltavskoy oblasti, ul. Lysenko, 15, GK DOSAAF, diplomnoy komissii [Diploma Commission, DOSAAF Town Committee, 15 Lysenko St., 315500 LUBNY (Poltavskaya Oblast')]. [Among 27 amateur stations listed as operating from Lubny are the following collective, individual 2 x 3, and individual 2 x 2 callsigns: UB4HWO, RB5HBJ, UB5HBA, and UT5MJ].

The address for the "Gagarin Field" diploma is 413119, Saratovskaya obl. [152, 4C], g. Engel's-19, abonementnyy yashchik 21 [Post Office Box 21, 413119 ENGEL'S-19 (Saratovskaya Oblast')].

Soviet shortwavers who worked the Canadian station VX6OCO may receive the "XV zimniye Olimpiyskiye igry" diploma ["XV OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES" certificate], issued for two contacts with this station from 1 January through 13 February 1988. This diploma is not issued by a national radio amateur organization, so the applicant must pay for it himself with seven international reply coupons [mezhdunarodnyye pochtovyye kupony]. The application and the IRC's are to be sent directly (not via the CRC USSR) to OLYMPIC AWARD MANAGER, P. O. BOX 592, CALGARY, ALBERTA, CANADA, T2P 2J2. Applications must be received by 31 May 1989.

DX QSL VIA...

[Among 99 QSL routes:] U1MIR, U2MIR, U3MIR via UW3AX (until 26 November 1988), via UA6HZ (beginning 26 November 1988). UA1POL/UA1O via UA9CTD.

BRIEFLY IN THE NEWS.

"5BW-100-O" diploma [certificate] No. 2 was received by A. Pashkov, UA9-145-197, from Novosibirsk [Novosibirsk is the administrative center of Novosibirskaya Oblast' (145, 90)].

The Soviet DX Club [Sovetskiy DX klub] (UDXC) conducts its "round table" on 14,300 kHz beginning at 1000 Moscow time [0700 UT October to March, 0600 UT April to September].

As of 16 December 1988 the UDXC had accepted 131 shortwavers.

In 1988, the QSL Bureau of the Central Radio Club of the USSR Named After E. T. Krenkel' received 2,964,160 QSL cards from abroad and sent 3,920,120 QSL's to foreign countries.

Last year 4715 diplomas [certificates] of the Federation of Radio Sport of the USSR and of the Central Radio Club of the USSR Named After E. T. Krenkel' were issued to Soviet radio amateurs; 965 were issued to foreigners.

As of 1 January 1989, 104 radio amateurs have the "All Oblasts" endorsement [nakleyka = sticker] to the R-100-O diploma [Worked 100 Oblasts certificate].

The Bureau of the Presidium of the Federation of Radio Sport of the USSR has adopted information interchange protocol AX.25 [protokol obmena informatsiyey AX.25] for use by Soviet radio amateurs when operating with packet radiocommunication.

At the initiative of the radio amateurs of Lipetskaya Oblast' [137, 3G], a QRP Club attached to their federation of radio sport has been set up for shortwavers operating with less than 10 watts of power.

Late in 1988, the schedule of UK3A, the collective station of the Central Radio Club of the USSR Named After E. T. Krenkel', was modified somewhat. Traffic with collective stations of republic, oblast', and kray radio clubs (at DOSAAF radio technical schools or combined technical schools) will take place on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays on 14.116 MHz, beginning at 0900, 1000, and 1100 Moscow time, and on 7.042 MHz beginning at 1200, 1400, 1500, and 1600. In addition, on Fridays UK3A is on for communications with oblast' collective stations from former call area 3 [which includes Moscow]. Beginning at 2000 on Wednesdays, UK3A transmits information for all radio amateurs of the USSR on 3.630 MHz.

[End of RADIO portion]

Please send corrections and comments, for possible inclusion in a future issue, to:

Dexter Anderson — W4KM
150 Eleventh Street SE
Washington DC 20003-3911
USA

RADIO #04/1989 RECEIVED (TKS WA2LQQ!!) DURING MAY 1989.
SUMMARY TRANSLATION MAILED TO NEWINGTON 10 AUGUST 1989.

[This annex contains rough summary translations of selected items from Sovetskiy Patriot (SP), a newspaper published on Wednesdays and Sundays by the military training organization DOSAAF. Most news concerning amateur radio appears in the numbered column "NLD" ("Na lyubitel'skikh diapazonakh" - "On the Amateur Bands") edited by Boris Grigor'yevich Stepanov, UW3AX. Each column in the "NLD" series bears the same date as the "SP" containing it.]

NLD-1383, 16 April 1989: [Missing.]

NLD-1384, 19 April 1989: [See Annex to RADIO #03/1989.]

NLD-1385, 26 April 1989:

CLUB NEWS

The first Siberian radioamateurs' conference [pervaya konferentsiya radiolyubiteley Sibiri] will take place 8 - 9 July [1989], organized by the Federation of Radio Sport [FRS] of Novosibirskaya Oblast' [145, 9O]. Those wishing to attend must send an application to the organizing committee [orgkomitet], indicating their last name, first name, patronymic [middle name derived from father's first name], callsign, and postal address; enclose an SASE. If an official invitation is required, indicate where it should be sent. Applications should be sent not later than 10 May to 630034, Novosibirsk-34, ab./yashch. 173, orgkomitet [Organizing Committee, P. O. Box 173, 630034 NOVOSIBIRSK-34]. From M. Golovko, UA9OJ.

From 1 through 15 May memorial station R1ASP, and from 7 through 9 May EO1AAK, will operate from Kronshtadt. QSL cards for both stations may be sent to 189610, Kronshtadt, ab./yashch. 100 [P. O. Box 100, 189610 KRONSHTADT]. From S. Shakhov, UA1AIR.

QSL cards for RF8V/UA9XFJ may be sent to 169412, Komi ASSR, Ukhta, ab./yashch. 20 [P. O. Box 20, 169412 UKHTA (Komi ASSR)]. [F-V = 013, the Abkhazskaya ASSR, located within the Georgian SSR.] From A. Bogdanov, UA9XFJ.

DISTANT STATIONS

Base station VE8CDX will be active through 5 May [1989] from the international polar expedition. One of its operaters will be K. Chashchin, UA3-170-679. From the Soviet side, communication with this station will be maintained by RA3AZ and UA3HR. When it is free from passing traffic, VE8CDX will be active around 14,125 kHz. From V. Zaushitsyn, RW3DR.

DIPLOMAS [CERTIFICATES]

Points earned for the "A. S. Popov" diploma on 7 May and 16 March are doubled. Apply for the diploma to 620219, Sverdlovsk, GSP-445, RTSh DOSAAF (diplomnoy komissii) [Diploma Commission, DOSAAF Radio Technical School, 620219 SVERDLOVSK GSP-445]. [Sverdlovskaya Oblast' = 154, 9C.] From A. Prikhod'ko, UA9CR.

Sovetskiy Patriot, 30 April 1989, page 2, independent article:
"Assistance is Going to Adzhariya," by M. Nemirova

[This article concerns a landslide that struck the Abzharskaya Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic ("Oblast'" No. 014, non-RSFSR callsign identifier F-Q) on 19 April 1989. The Abzharskaya ASSR lies within the Georgian (Gruzinskaya) SSR (012, F-F). The article makes no mention of amateur radio, but it is not precluded that involvement by radio amateurs may be reported in later coverage.]

Misfortune struck on 19 April 1989 at 1930 hours [time zone unspecified], when a giant landslide of 1,600,000 cubic meters fell into the bed of the Charukha [Sp?] River near the village of Tsablana [Sp?], Khuloyskiy Rayon. Twenty-Nine persons perished. Hundreds of buildings were demolished. A Republic Government Commission was formed to render assistance. Rapid action is to be taken to resettle over 17,000 persons elsewhere in Georgia. Up to 20 fully-equipped modern villages are to be constructed for them. The Georgian Government has allocated R. 3,500,000 [approximately US$5,600,000] and private donations are coming in.

Sovetskiy Patriot, 30 April 1989, page 4, independent article:
"Hundred Thousandth Handshake on the Air"

Iosif Semenovich Raykhshteyn from Baku [capital of the Azerbaydzhanskaya SSR] is the first shortwaver in Azerbaydzhan to make contact with 100,000 amateur stations.

He has engaged in radiosport for over forty years, almost 30 of them with his own individual callsign.

Raykhshteyn, a meritorious trainer of Azerbaydzhan, has earned many diplomas and certificates for participating in all-Union and international competitions. He especially prizes a card from Yuriy Gagarin for his victory in All-Union Radiocommunication Competitions held in honor of the first flight of man into space. Written in the cosmonaut's own hand is the following: "I'm sure that you can look forward to interesting contacts with travellers in the limitless reaches of space. Gagarin. 17.04.61."

He also has a diploma received from Hero of the Soviet Union E[rnst Teodorovich] Krenkel' [RAEM] for working Soviet stations located beyond the Arctic and Antarctic Circles. He has the Worked All States award and similar ones from Japan and other countries.

Radiosportsmen know Raykhshteyn not only by his callsign[6] but as an experienced All-Union-Category Judge, who has judged Spartacades of the Peoples of the USSR and other important tournaments. He has trained eighteen Masters of Sport and one Master of Sport International Class.

Several years back Iosif Semenovich organized, on a volunteer [i.e. on an unpaid] basis, a radio club attached to the Baku Petroleum Technical School [pri Bakinskom neftyanom tekhnikume]. Dozens [Desyatki = "Tens"] of young people have gotten into radio, taking up the baton from their sponsor...

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[6]Which is not given in the article. The 1989 Callbook lists UD6DLJ to Josef S. Raichstein.

NLD-1386, 7 May 1986:

RADIOAMATEUR SATELLITES

Reference data for "RS-10" based on 13 May: Orbit number 9,458, ascending-node time 0041 [UT assumed], latitude 336°, rotation period 105.0215 minutes, displacement 26.3813°. From L. Maksakov, RA3AT.

CLUB NEWS

Send reports for activity days sponsored by amateurs from Orenburgskaya Oblast' [167, 9S] to mark the 30th anniversary of the town of Gay, to 462630, Orenburgskaya obl., g. Gay, ab./yashch. 13 [P. O. Box 13, 462630 GAY (Orenburgskaya Oblast')]. From S. Klyushnikov, UA9SAW.

DIPLOMAS

Apply for the "Partizanskaya iskra" ["Partisan Spark"] diploma to 329810, Nikolayevskaya oblast', g. Pervomaysk, Glavpochtamt, ab./yashch. 20 [P. O. Box 20, Main Post Office, 329810 PERVOMAYSK (Nikolayevskaya Oblast')]. [Nikolayevskaya Oblast' = 069, B-Z].

NLD-1387, 17 May 1989:

DISTANT STATIONS

A 4J1FS radioexpedition is planned from 23 through 30 May [1989]. Operating transmit frequencies (two of which may be used at the same time): 1,832, 3,501, 7,001, 14,001, 21,001, and 28,001 kHz - CW; 1,862, 3,645, 7,045, 14,145, 21,245, and 28,545 kHz - SSB. Information on receive frequencies will be given over the air. Ultrashortwave frequencies and QSL-manager information will be announced later.

Distribution of QSL cards to those who sent SASE's to 4J1FS [for the 1988 operation] has been completed. Cards for other shortwavers are being sent to local QSL bureaus. SWL QSL's will be sent by UY5XE; it is not necessary to send a duplicate QSL to him.

CLUB NEWS

Until 29 May [1989] UT4UXX/MM will operate from on board the steamer on which the international meetings organized by the KMO [Komitet molodezhnykh organizatsiy - Committee of Youth Organizations] of the Ukrainian SSR are being held. During this period stations with the special prefixes UB0, RB0, and RT7 will be active. [Rules for obtaining a corresponding diploma/certificate follow.] Apply to 252001, Kiyev, ab./yashch. 93, radioklub KMO USSR [Radio Club of the Committee of Youth Organizations of the Ukrainian SSR, P. O. Box 93, 252001 KIEV]. From P. Balagusha, RT5UL.

From 31 May through 5 June [1989], a Soviet-Dutch radioexpedition using the callsign R1W will travel to places in Pskovskaya Oblast' [149, 1W] associated with Pushkin. Send QSL cards to RA1WZ at the address 180007, Pskov, ab./yashch. 933 [P. O. Box 933, 180007 PSKOV]. From B. Osadchiy.

NLD-1388, 24 May 1989:

DISTANT STATIONS

The expedition to Malyy Vysotskiy (see last edition) will use the following ultrashortwave frequencies: 144,055 kHz (CW), 144,305 kHz (SSB), 145,550 kHz (FM); 432,055 kHz (CW), and 432,205 kHz (SSB). Cards to shortwavers will be sent out by OH5NZ, and to observers [SWL's] by UY5XE; observer QSL's must be sent to UY5XE before 1 July.

5H3TW (op. K3TW) will be active for 2 years. Cards should be sent to: BOX 9123, DAR ES SALAM. From RA3AR, RL8PA, and DX-NL.

Sovetskiy Patriot, 31 May 1989, p 4, independent article:

"WHO WILL GO TO THE EARTHQUAKE?"

by A. Golubev[7]

[Introduction]

Following the earthquake in Armenia [7 December 1988], it became clear to everyone that a special search-rescue service [spetsial'naya poiskovo-spasatel'naya sluzhba] able to respond rapidly to natural disasters was vitally needed. Rescue work in Spitak, Leninakan, and other areas demonstrated that in such cases one can't rely on military units, student detachments, and narrowly-specialized rescue services alone. Soldiers and students in the overwhelming majority of cases didn't have experience in rescuing people in extreme situations and were used only for clearing [away rubble], and the others were narrow specialists: Cave-workers [speleologi], mountain-climbers [al'pinisty], and demolition specialists [szryvniki], whereas people with all-round training were often needed.

[Article proper]

The way things should be was demonstrated by the foreign rescue-workers sent to Armenia. They were specially trained for work in areas where natural disasters have struck.

This caused an initiative group [initsiativnaya gruppa] consisting of people who had worked in three rescue detachments in Armenia to try to pursue the idea of a search and rescue service [poiskovo-spasatel'naya sluzhba - PSS].

What did they propose to the Red Cross Society, in which a section [otdel] responsible for organizing assistance in extreme situations was organized recently? To establish a core-group of professional rescue-workers who would engage in all-round training for possible action in areas struck by natural disasters, as well as in other critical situations. Included would be first aid, prevention of [the spread of] infectious diseases, and work in chemical, radiological, or bacteriological danger-areas.

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[7]Viktor Golubev was chief of a detachment that worked at Chernobyl' and later in Armenia; see bottom of page 13, above. Whether Viktor Golubev is related to A. Golubev, the author of this article, is not known.

Vladimir Bragin, one of the leaders of the initiative group, said they almost immediately ran into a number of organizational problems. It turned out that the Red Cross wasn't in a position to provide the necessary material base [neobkhodimaya material'naya baza - presumably meaning needed physical infrastructure items including offices, training facilities, and living quarters], or personnel positions [? - shtatnyye dolzhnosti], for a rescue service. For this reason the Red Cross Society at first spoke only of either self-financing detachments [khozraschetnyye otryady] or of volunteer detachments. The self-financing detachments were to engage first of all in economic work designed to produce income, and only as a supplement engage in preparation for action in disaster areas.

Of course, the idea of self-financing is attractive, but is it appropriate in this case? Natural disasters, unfortunately, can occur at unpredictable times. Imagine a self-financing organization bound by various contracts, including long-term contracts, whose members suddenly had to tear themselves away to go where rescue-workers were needed. West German rescue-workers told their Soviet colleagues in Armenia that their service doesn't sit still with nothing to do for as long as two weeks at a time; unfortunately, the industrial and the energy sectors provide a lot of tricky surprises. The initiative group isn't against the "treasury" of the search and rescue service being filled through the help of economic activities, but these activities should only supplement the basic activities of the service.

A volunteer detachment, in my view, isn't even worth talking about. First, you can't become a highly-qualified rescue-worker in your spare time. Second, and more than one volunteer told me of this in the earthquake area, a number of difficulties arose in arranging travel to Armenia. Andrey Terent'yev saved five people and pulled over thirty corpses out of the ruins; after he returned to Moscow, he learned that his employer had telephoned his wife, suggesting that she prepare on his behalf a written resignation; otherwise he would be dismissed. Even though Andrey was taking leave on his own account. Only intervention by the Armenian representative saved the situation. And this was not the only such case.

The matter of a material base for the search and rescue service and the status of rescue-workers was decided after the Moscow City Committee of the Komsomol [party youth organization] became involved. Attached to the Komsomol city committee was [an organization called] the Moscow Association of Search Groups [Moskovskoye ob"yedineniye poiskovykh grupp] which was mainly engaged in searching for the remains of [people killed in] the Great Patriotic War and in the burial of those who perished. When the earthquake occurred in Armenia, the Association sent a detachment there. That experience showed that it was simplest of all to establish a search and rescue service genuinely able to respond rapidly in Moscow, where the highest management levels of all agencies are located. For this reason, the Komsomol city committee met the initiative group half way, and an interesting alternative approach was identified. A youth center [molodezhnyy tsentr - MTs]

was established and attached to the Komsomol city committee. It will engage in multifaceted economic manufacturing activity which could produce an income of 10 to 15 million rubles [annually?]. The Center will also allot funds for the search and rescue service. In addition, rescue-workers may work in their specialties in the youth center, confident that time for training and for travel to the scene of a disaster will be made available without difficulty.

But this is for the future. Meanwhile, a founding meeting of the youth center has been held, at which the commander of the search and rescue center, Vladimir Bragin, was elected Deputy Director of the youth center. Preliminary contact has already taken place with sponsors and with organizations that are prepared to extend charitable assistance. And at the beginning assistance will be needed, since the youth center needs time to get on its own two feet. As the chief of the the Komsomol city committee section, V. Krysyakov, told me, the city committee will now work on establishing cooperative relations with the army, civil defense, and various agencies.

It would seem that all was in order. But... The matter came to a standstill over the "trifle" of premises, without which the youth center cannot become a full-fledged juridical person.

The youth center management and the search and rescue service attached to it (for the time being, unfortunately, only on paper) made inquiries everywhere! But neither the rayon committee nor the city executive committee has met them half way. They even found empty rooms and indicated their willingness to take on necessary restoration work, but they received approximately the same answer -- we're planning to put a laboratory here, a cooperative there. But in my opinion an exception should be made in favor of the youth center. If, God forbid, another severe earthquake occurs, I think it will be difficult to explain to the relatives of the victims why the search and rescue service was denied premises. The rescue-workers delivered to the executive committee of the Moscow City Council letters requesting its assistance signed by Secretary of the Komsomol city committee V. Pan'kin, First Deputy Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Union of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of the USSR A. Tyulyandin, Representative of the Armenian SSR E. Aykazyan, and the Permanent Representative of the Armenian Church in Moscow, Bishop T. Kyuregyan. But will these respected persons help move the matter off dead center?

NLD-1389, 31 May 1989:

CLUB NEWS

UA9UBN/UA9K (worth 5 points for the "RAEM" diploma) will be active on all bands CW and SSB from Cape Kharasavey (Yamal Peninsula) until the end of 1989. QSL cards may be sent either to 654083, Novokuznetsk, ab./yashch. 3319 [P. O. Box 3319, 654083 NOVOKUZNETSK] or 626690, Tyumenskaya oblast', Yamal'skiy rayon, p/o Kharasavey, Katalkinu V. N. [V. N. Katalkin, 626690 KHARASAVEY POST OFFICE, Yamal'skiy Rayon, Tyumenskaya Oblast']. From UA9UBN/UA9K. [9K = 163, Yamalo-Nenetskiy Autonomous Okrug (District).]

QSL cards for 4KOBAR should be sent to UAOBAR at 663260, Krasnoyarskiy kray, Taymyrskiy avt. okrug, Khatanga, ab./yashch. 17 [P. O. Box 17, 663260 KHATANGA, Taymyrskiy Autonomous District, Krasnoyarskiy Kray]. [Taymyrskiy Autonomous District = 105, OB.] From V. Zhukov, RA3YA.

UA3PAM/JT will be active for two years. QSL cards (PSE SASE) may be sent to 300000, Tula, ab./yashch. 19 [P. O. Box 19, 300000 TULA]. From I. Gumilevskiy, RW3PW.

RV3GJ/UG will operate from Leninakan until 10 August. [Leninakan suffered serious damage during the Armenian earthquake of 7 December 1988.] QSL cards should be sent to 398000, Lipetsk, ab./yashch. 8 [P. O. Box 8, 398000 LIPETSK]. From RV3GJ.

Amateurs interested in forming a club for maritime radio operators may communicate with UAOFDX at 694900, Sakhalin, Uglegorsk, ab./yashch. 55 [P. O. Box 55, 694900 UGLEGORSK (Sakhalin)] or with RA1AMW at 192242, Leningrad, ab./yashch. 251 [P. O. Box 251, 192242 LENINGRAD].

A self-financing club [khozraschetnyy klub] of collective stations and of organizers of radio amateur work among young people has been formed, attached to the "Pul'sar" sport technical radio club. Information is available from 644043, Omsk, ab./yashch. 1742 [P. O. Box 1742, 644043 OMSK]. From UA9MAR.

NLD-1390, 7 June 1989:

IN THE FEDERATION OF RADIO SPORT OF THE USSR

Handicapped radioamateurs [Radiolyubiteli-invalidy] presently have the right to send QSL cards addressed to foreign shortwavers, directly to the Central Radio Club of the USSR. The cards must be arranged in country order. From Yu. Alfer'yev, UB5WJ.

CLUB NEWS

The new address of the QSL Bureau of the Komi ASSR [090, 9X] is Komi ASSR, 167001, Syktyvkar, ab./yashch. 1247 [P. O. Box 1247, 167001 SYKTYVKAR (Komi ASSR)]. Cards for FRG amateurs who operated from 11 to 21 May from the Komi ASSR (using the prefix UA9X/ plus their own callsign) may be sent to UA9XL at 167007, Syktyvkar, ab./yashch. 122 [P. O. Box 122, 167007 SYKTYVKAR]. From UA9XC.

DISTANT STATIONS

The participants in the 4J1FS expedition to Malyy Vysotskiy island -- UA1ALZ, UR2AR, UW3AX, UZ3AU, UA6HZ, K7JA, OH1EE, OH2BH, OH2BU, OH2JA, and OH6DD -- made 41 thousand contacts in six days of operation. Information on the QSL manager for U stations will be given in the next issue -- QRX!

DIPLOMAS

The abolition of centralized approval of local radio amateur diplomas has led to a sharp increase in their number. "NLD" presently has information on several dozen ["tens"] of new diplomas, and changes in the rules for existing diplomas, substantially exceeding the capacity of the "NLD" column.

NLD-1391, 14 June 1989:

CLUB NEWS

Soviet shortwavers may send QSL cards for 4J1FS to UW3DH at 101000, Moskva, ab./yashch. 930 [P. O. Box 930, 101000 MOSCOW]. To receive a QSL at your home address, send an SASE (one for each two contacts). Observers [SWL's] should send their QSL's to UY5XE at 290000, L'vov, ab./yashch. 19 [P. O. Box 19, 290000 L'VOV].

QSL cards for shortwavers of Surkhandar'inskaya Oblast' [052, I-T] should be sent to 732006, Uzbekskaya SSR, Termez-6, ul. 8-go Marta, 1, oblastnoy radioklub [Oblast' Radio Club, 1 Eighth of March Street, 732006 TERMEZ-6 (Uzbekskaya SSR)]. From UI8TAO.

The warrier-internationalists' [Afghanistan veterans'] "round table" will operate as follows beginning 1 June: First Saturday, 2100 MSK [1700 UT], 1,860 kHz; second and fourth Saturdays, 1900 MSK, 7,060 kHz; third Saturday, 2100 MSK, 3,620 kHz. From UA3QII.

QSL addresses for expedition stations: UZ3WWZ/RB1J (21 May - 5 June) - 305000, Kursk, ab./yashch. 114, RA3WEU [c/o RA3WEU, P. O. Box 114, 305000 KURSK]; RAOAA (with suffixes UJOJ, RJOK, and UJOR) (3 - 11 May) - 662100, Krasnoyarskiy kray, Achinsk, ab./yashch. 55 [P. O. Box 55, 662100 ACHINSK (Krasnoyarskiy Kray)]; EW6BJ (11 - 13 April) - 334500, Kerch', ab./yashch. 52 [P. O. Box 52, 334500 KERCH']; EKOAA (see NLD-1378) 152914, Rybinsk, ab./yashch. 1 [P. O. Box 1, 152914 RYBINSK]; EKOAW (see NLD-1378) - 152934, Rybinsk, ab./yashch. 25 [P. O. Box 25, 152934 RYBINSK]; UV3DA/UF6V (1 - 30 June) - 143952, Reutov, ab./yashch. 23 [P. O. Box 23, 143952 REUTOV]; EO1AZM (7 - 10 May) - 183053, Murmansk, ab./yashch. 2471 [P. O. Box 2471, 183053 MURMANSK]; UZ9OWM/UJOR (2 - 11 May) - 630092, Novosibirsk-92, ab./yashch. 1 [P. O. Box 1, 630092 NOVOSIBIRSK-92]. From RA3WEU, RAOAA, RB5-067-173, UA3MGA, RA3DMY, UA1ZZ, and UA9OMD.

Cosmonaut Musa [Khiramanovich] Manarov, U2MIR, contacted 1145 amateurs from 42 countries and territories of the world (DXCC listing) from 12 November through 19 December 1988. QSL cards for the U-MIR stations are expected to be ready by the end of this month.

NLD-1392, 21 June 1989:

CLUB NEWS

Send QSL cards for RAOAD/JT to 656057, Barnaul, ab./yashch. 1 [P. O. Box 1, 656057 BARNAUL]. From RA9YD.

UT5ON/UA8T will be on 3.5 to 28 MHz CW beginning 3 July. QSL to 274018, Chernovtsy, ab./yashch. 261 [P. O. Box 261, 274018 CHERNOVTSY]. [8T = 174 = Ust'-Ordynskiy-Buryatskiy Autonomous Okrug.] (District).]

From 26 June through 28 July the following stations will be active for the 70th anniversary of the Ukrainian Komsomol; QSL addresses in parentheses: UY7ILK (340017, Donetsk, ab./yashch. 5665 [P. O. Box 5665, 340017 DONETSK]); UY8ILK (SSB - 340020, Donetsk, ab./yashch. 1065 [P. O. Box 1065, 340020 DONETSK]; CW - 340092, Donetsk, ab./yashch. 974 [P. O. Box 974, 340092 DONETSK]); UY9ILK (340076, Donetsk, ab./yashch. 3773 [P. O. Box 3773, 340076 DONETSK]; UYOILK (340044, Donetsk, ab./yashch. 1638 [P. O. Box 1638, 340044 DONETSK].

Activity days will be held by amateurs of the Yevreyskaya Avtonomnaya Oblast' [Jewish Autonomous Oblast' = 111, OD] 24 through 30 June. Log extracts go to 682200, Birobidzhan, ab./yashch. 54 [P. O. Box 54, 682200 BIROBIDZHAN].

QSL cards for amateurs in Nagorno-Karabakhskaya Autonomous Oblast' [= 003, D-K; the scene of ethnic clashes involving the desire of its Armenian majority to have Nagorno-Karabakh transferred from Azerbaydzhan to Armenia] may be sent to 374430, Stepanakert, ab./yashch. 2 [P. O. Box 2, 374430 STEPANAKERT]. From UD6-003-11.

The address of the Rybinsk QSL Bureau (see NLD-1337) is 152931, Rybinsk, ab./yashch. 3 [P. O. Box 3, 152931 RYBINSK]. [Rybinsk is in Yaroslavskaya Oblast' = 168, 3M.] From UA3MGA.

NLD-1393, 28 June 1989:

IN THE FEDERATION OF RADIO SPORT OF THE USSR

A gathering of shortwavers of the USSR and Finland [slet korotkovolnovikov SSSR i Finlyandii] will take place 5 and 6 August in Leningrad. Amateurs from the USA, FRG, Great Britain, and several other countries will participate. The program includes discussions concerning DX, competitions [contests], ultrashortwave [VHF/UHF/SHF], etc. The accredition fee is 30 rubles, payable on the day of arrival, 4 August. Amateurs from the USSR wishing to take part must send SASE's to the organizing committee [orgkomitet] at 196070, Leningrad, ab./yashch. 73, "Interradio" ["Interradio," P. O. Box 73, 196070 LENINGRAD]. In connection with the limited amount of hotel space, applications will be considered by the organizing committee and invitations will be distributed by union republic in accordance with norms established by the FRS USSR. Others may take part but without the organizing committee arranging hotel space, in which case the accreditation fee is 15 rubles. A station is being operated by the organizing committee Saturdays and Sundays on 14,300 kHz beginning at 1000 MSK [0600 UT].

NLD-1394, 5 July 1989:

CLUB NEWS

U5WF/UB9P, UB5WE/UB7P, and RB5WA/RB9P will be active until 18 July from Volynskaya Oblast' [058, B-P]. QSL cards may be sent to 290000, L'vov, ab./yashch. 41 [P. O. Box 41, 290000 L'VOV]. From UB5WE.

UZ90WM/RA8T will be active until 14 July from Ust'-Ordynskiy Autonomous Okrug [District] [174, 8T]. QSL cards (PSE SASE) to 630092, Novosibirsk, ab./yashch. 1 [P. O. Box 1, 630092 NOVOSIBIRSK]. From UA90MD.

NLD-1395, 12 July 1989:

CLUB NEWS

From 22 July through 1 August the Soviet QRP Club will conduct a radioexpedition from Sverdlovskaya Oblast' [154, 9C] on all HF bands, using CW, SSB, and RTTY. Two stations with the callsigns EK3QRP and UZ9CWY/A/QRP will operate on international QRP frequencies using QRP and QRPP equipment. A memorial photo will be

sent for contacting both stations, or one of the two stations on different bands, or one of the two stations on the same band but via different modes. To receive the photo, send an SASE with your QSL card, plus 20 kopecks in stamps, to 398043, Lipetsk, ab./yashch. 229 [P. O. Box 229, 398043 LIPETSK]. From UA3GVR.

DIPLOMAS

Apply for the "Pobeda - Dal'niy Vostok" ["Victory - Far East"] diploma to 690010, Vladivostok, ab./yashch. 728, diplomnoy komissii [Diploma Commission P. O. Box 728, 690010 VLADIVOSTOK]. [Vladivostok, a major port, is the administrative center of Primorskiy Kray (107, OL).]

Sovetskiy Patriot, 16 July 1989, p 4, Announcement/Advertisement:

"Attention Radioamateurs!"

The Adygeysk section of the Krasnodar Book Publishing House, filling an order of the "Rezonans" Cooperative, has published the book "Collection of Call-Signs of Amateur Radio Stations of the USSR" ["Sbornik pozyvnykh lyubitel'skikh radiostantsiy SSSR"]. The collection contains the addresses of over 5500 amateur radio stations and 364 QSL bureaus. It costs 4 rubles [ca. US$6.50].

Address for orders: 352700, Maykop, a/ya 40, "Info-ekspress" ["Info-Express, P O Box 40, 352700 MAYKOP].

At the present time the "Info-Express" Group of the "Rezonans" Cooperative is preparing an additional "Collection of Call-Signs of Amateur Radio Stations of the USSR" as of 1 July 1989. In connection with this, radioamateurs not appearing in the present collection are requested to send in their data, arranged as follows:

1. Call-sign.
2. First name, Patronymic [middle name derived from father's first name], last name.
3. Postcode.
4. Name of the populated point (if the populated point is not a town or city, indicate the oblast').
5. State, house number, apartment number (or post office box).

All oblast' and republic federations of radio sport are requested to send lists of radioamateurs to "Info-Express" updated to 1 July 1989.

NLD-1396, 19 July 1989:

UA3MBJ/UB5K [B-K = Rovenskaya Oblast' = 072] will be active from square KO30 on shortwave and ultrashortwave [HF and VHF/UHF/SHF] until 1 August. QSL to 152701, Yaroslavskaya oblast', Nekouzskiy r-n, p. Mokeikha, ul. Vokzal'naya, 14-3, Arbuzovu N. P. [N. P. Arbuzov, 14-3 Vokzal'naya St., 152701 MOKEIKHA SETTLEMENT (Nekouzskiy rayon, Yaroslavskaya Oblast')]. From UA3MBJ.

The three hundred U's making the greatest number of contacts with Magadanskaya Oblast' [138, OI] will receive the memorial diploma "Magadan-50." Apply by 1 September to 685024, Magadan, ab./yashch. 1691 [P. O. Box 1691, 685024 MAGADAN]. From UAOIDM.

QSL cards for US4P in the IARU Contest should be sent to UA4QM at 420110, Kazan', ab./yashch. 2920 [P. O. Box 2920, 420110 KAZAN']. QSL cards to American shortwavers operating before and after these competitions with their own call-signs stroke U4P should be sent to their home calls. Observers should sent their QSL cards to UZ4PWA. [4P = Tatarskaya ASSR = 094.] From UA4QM.

NLD-1397, 26 July 1989 [last "NLD" in July 1989]:

CLUB NEWS

An activity day will be sponsored 5 August by the amateurs of Belgorodskaya Oblast' [117, 3Z]. Send reports by 25 August to 309710, Belgorodskaya obl., Valuyki, ab./yashch. 1 [P. O. Box 1, 309710 VALUYKI (Belgorodskaya Oblast')]. From RA3ZA.

Activity days will be sponsored from 3 to 7 August by the amateurs of Khar'kovskaya Oblast' [077, B-L]. Send reports by 22 August to 312830, Khar'kovskaya obl. Chuguyev, ab./yashch. 43 [P. O. Box 43, 312830 CHUGUYEV (Khar'kovskaya Oblast')]